

PAYNE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PAYNE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

DRILLING BILLS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, where does our oil come from?

Much of it comes from offshore drilling rigs scattered around the globe. From the North Sea to the South China Sea, there are thousands of rigs pumping oil that eventually finds its way to the American market. Exploration for oil and natural gas is growing in Egypt, Brazil, and dozens of other countries.

But here in the United States, we are moving backwards. Leases and permits have been slow-walked and delayed—2011 was almost the first year since 1958 that the Federal Government did not hold an offshore lease sale.

This week we are going to pass legislation to kick-start leases and increase production of American energy. The only reliable way to decrease gasoline prices is to increase domestic supply. If we don't act to expand access to American natural resources, we will see production fall this year.

The American people want to get back to work, but high energy prices are holding back job growth. American jobs are on the line. That's why now is the time to boost American energy.

GAS PRICES

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, over the last several weeks, my Rhode Island constituents and Americans all across this country have been nervously eyeing their neighborhood gas stations, waiting and watching as the gas prices steadily rise, now forcing many to fill their tanks for no less than \$4 per gallon.

This news underscores the concerns voiced by hundreds of men, women, and families throughout Rhode Island and all across this Nation in recent weeks. They can no longer afford the price of gasoline, and urgent help is needed.

Yet as gas prices climb, profits continue to soar for Big Oil. We've got to find solutions now to lower the cost of gasoline and to end the \$4 billion in tax breaks that are paid to Big Oil.

Mr. Speaker, I am delivering a letter today to the Speaker asking him to bring legislation already drafted to the floor for a vote that would release oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and legislation aimed at preventing Big Oil from engaging in price-gouging schemes which drive up the price of gas at the pumps.

These are just two measures, Mr. Speaker, that have been introduced in the House which would provide immediate relief to consumers from the rising price of gasoline that threatens our economy and the well-being of hard-working middle class Americans all throughout this country.

I certainly hope the Speaker will put these on the calendar so we can vote on them and provide relief immediately to the American people.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT OBAMA ON OSAMA EXECUTION

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, this upcoming September 11 will mark the 10th anniversary of the most horrific act of terrorism, executed under the leadership of the now deceased Osama bin Laden.

We will never forget the images of burning buildings, crashing planes, and Americans running for their lives. Three thousand people never came back home that Tuesday, and families will again remember the last time they hugged their loved ones good-bye. What will be different this September 11 is that Osama bin Laden will no longer be able to celebrate the destruction he caused and the lives he destroyed.

President Obama, we thank you for a superb operation. Thank you for having the courage to make the decision so many would have backed away from.

Because of President Obama's team of experts, this risky mission was backed by sound information, solid facts, and accurate calculations. His goal was clear: Get Osama bin Laden. And that is exactly what happened. This is truly a mission accomplished.

I commend our Commander in Chief, Barack Obama, for his intelligent execution. This is not a celebration of death; this is a celebration of justice, courage, sacrifice, and democracy. And this is a celebration of leadership.

Mr. President, your 40-minute operation has helped bring closure to so many Americans for a lifetime.

THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM DINNER

(Mr. CLARKE of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday I participated in one of the largest sit-down dinners ever held. It was hosted by the Detroit branch of the NAACP, and

there we heard from and we honored the conscience of this House, Representative JOHN LEWIS.

The event was titled "The Fight for Freedom Dinner." And some of those freedoms worth fighting for are economic in nature: The freedom to own a home that won't be unfairly placed in foreclosure. The freedom to work a job and not be laid off because you're outsourced. The freedom to receive health care, especially health care guaranteed by Medicare, and not have to go broke or bankrupt paying for it.

These opportunities should be available under our legal system to all Americans equally.

WHERE ARE THE JOBS?

(Ms. LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, the American people want to know, Where are the jobs?

After 17 weeks of controlling the House, Republicans have no plan to create jobs and no plan to spur economic growth. Instead, they proposed a budget that puts our country on a road to ruin. They want to end Medicare, gut Medicaid, strip funding for Pell Grants and elementary and secondary education for our students, while hobbling our Nation's transportation infrastructure.

Yet again this week, Republicans are offering slogans instead of solutions: "Drill Baby Drill," "Kill the Bill." These slogans don't amount to a plan to create jobs or guarantee access to health care in America.

Instead of another very cynical attempt to repeal health reform and perpetrate their war on women, and instead of offering oil companies free reign off our coasts, we should be working together to help the unemployed and to create jobs. We must not forget the 99ers and we must help them, people who have moved out of their unemployment benefits. They've actually maxed out. And we must invest in our country to stimulate job creation.

Democrats have a plan while Republicans can only offer rhetoric.

□ 1210

ALL THE CARDS ARE ON THE TABLE

(Ms. EDWARDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, all the cards are on the table, and the Republicans want to reduce Medicaid to a mere block grant program and drastically alter the Federal-State partnership that has been struck for over 45 years.

The GOP budget argues that under a block grant program, "States will no longer be shackled by federally determined program requirements." Sounds

nice, right? But, Mr. Speaker, what they really mean is that States will no longer have to meet standards that ensure quality, delivery of service, and eligibility.

The GOP budget argues that block grants will improve health care safety for seniors and low-income families. Again, sounds right, Mr. Speaker, sounds wonderful. But they fail to conveniently mention that the States would be required to spend below projected growth, forcing State governments to make up the difference by increasing spending. Again, that's a fat chance in this environment.

And so what they really want to do is to cap enrollment, cut eligibility, limit mandatory benefits, and lower provider reimbursement. Our doctors, our seniors, and our low-income families deserve so much better.

RECOGNIZING TWO SIGNIFICANT ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS IN DELAWARE

(Mr. CARNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I'd like to recognize two significant athletic achievements that were recently announced in my home State of Delaware.

In March, the St. Mark's High School football team was named Team of the Year by the Delaware Sportswriters and Broadcasters Association. This fall, St. Mark's finished with an undefeated 12-0 record and captured their first football title since 1978.

Also last month, University of Delaware sophomore Elena Delle Donne was named Player of the Year in Delaware after earning First Team All-CAA honors in basketball for the second straight year.

As a St. Mark's alumnus and former high school and college athlete and coach, I know the hard work and commitment that goes into achieving success at such a high level. I also know that high school and college athletes learn lessons about teamwork, competition, and leadership that will serve them well for the rest of their lives.

And so I'd like to once again congratulate Elena Delle Donne, St. Mark's High School football coach Jim Wilson and his staff, and each member of this year's team.

We in Delaware wish you well and hope for your continued success.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1213, REPEALING MANDATORY FUNDING FOR STATE HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGES, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1214, REPEALING MANDATORY FUNDING FOR SCHOOL HEALTH CENTER CONSTRUCTION

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 236 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 236

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1213) to repeal mandatory funding provided to States in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to establish American Health Benefit Exchanges. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. No amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. At any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1214) to repeal mandatory funding for school-based health center construction. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. No amendment to the bill shall be in order except those received for printing in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII in a daily issue dated May 2, 2011, and except pro forma amendments for the purpose of debate. Each amendment so received may be offered only by the Member who caused it to be printed or a designee and shall be considered as read if printed. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purposes of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. REED. House Resolution 236 provides one rule for consideration of H.R. 1213 under a structured process, making all five Democratic amendments in order that comply with the rules of the House; and H.R. 1214 under a modified open process that gives all Members an opportunity to preprint their amendments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and have them considered on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, we are here today to offer a rule to allow us to debate H.R. 1213 and H.R. 1214. H.R. 1213 would repeal mandatory funding provided to States in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to establish American health benefit exchanges. H.R. 1214 would repeal mandatory spending for school-based health center construction.

Quite simply, our country is broke, and we cannot continue to spend money like we have in the past. Our spending crisis is clear. Slush funds and unlimited tabs on the Treasury must be the first to go, particularly when they are being used to fund government-centered takeover of our Nation's health care system that does not improve care, does not lower costs and, simply, we cannot afford.

The American people sent a clear message last November: ObamaCare is not the answer; stop spending money that our country doesn't have, money we are borrowing and spending on the backs of our children and grandchildren who will be left footing the bill.

H.R. 1213, introduced by the distinguished chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee who has been a leader in this fight, repeals the provision that gives the Secretary of Health and Human Services a blank check to determine how much to facilitate enrollment in the State health care exchanges set up by the underlying bill. The law includes no definition of what that means. For example, a 100 percent premium subsidy for individuals to enroll in the exchange would not be prohibited under the statute.

In the year since ObamaCare was enacted, it has already become clear the law set up an unworkable and an unaffordable system. There have been countless numbers of waivers given out and slush funds such as this to allow the Federal Government to continue to push more money onto the States,